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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MITCHELL).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

I hereby appoint the Honorable PAUL MITCHELL to act as Speaker pro tempore on

> PAUL D. RYAN, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL PATRICK D. FRANK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. Marshall) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brigadier General Patrick D. Frank, who is currently serving as the acting senior commander of the 1st Infantry Division in Fort Riley, but departing soon for a new post after serving in this capacity since October

Brigadier General Frank was the first to welcome me as a new Member of Congress, and he and his wife, Jennifer, have always served as great ambassadors for the Big Red One.

Thank you to the general and Jennifer for always making me, as well as my staff, feel so very welcome at Fort

Brigadier General Frank has received numerous awards and served in multiple theaters, some of which include Operation Desert Storm, Operation Uphold Democracy in Haiti, and Operation Freedom's Sentinel.

We commend him for his service to our Nation and wish him and Jennifer the best of luck and much success in his next post as deputy commander general of the Army Cadet Command at Fort Knox, Kentucky. He and Jennifer will certainly be missed at Fort Riley and in Kansas.

ENFORCING TRADE AGREEMENTS

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Trump administration for their recent work on enforcement of trade agreements.

Kansas is an export-dependent State. We supply food, feed, aircraft, and parts to countries all over the world.

As I have traveled the State over the past 6 months, I have heard repeatedly that we must find ways to open new markets for United States producers, including Kansans.

The good news is that this administration is focused on doing just that: opening new markets. The announcement that U.S. beef will be allowed back in China is a tremendous example. China is a \$2.5 billion beef market. which the U.S. has been unfairly shut out of for 13 years. This bilateral success shows how serious the U.S. is about holding other countries accountable and that our negotiators are working on behalf of U.S. producers.

Recent confirmation that the U.S. is continuing World Trade Organization cases against China's import barriers for wheat, corn, and rice is also welcome news for United States farmers.

China has flagrantly violated their WTO commitments, costing U.S. producers billions in lost farm income as China put up import barriers and stockpiled surplus grains that are weighing on world markets.

Our global rules-based trading system has brought tremendous benefits to American businesses, farmers, workers, and consumers. As global commerce has expanded, we have found that, when there is a free and level playing field, American producers can match any competitor.

CONGRATULATING LAUREN **EMERSON**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. Abraham) for 5 min-

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Lauren Emerson from Rapides High School for being recognized as one of the top 20 ag teachers in the Nation by the National Association of Agricultural Educators.

Lauren's students come into her classroom with a strong background in agriculture, and she provides hands-on lessons that provoke meaningful connections between the curriculum and their work at home to help take their learning to the next level.

Her students can earn industry certifications and dual credit by enrolling in her agricultural courses. She helps develop her students' leadership skills through the National FFA Organization, skills they need to move forward with higher levels of education, postgraduate education, and just for life.

To borrow from the FFA creed, I, too, believe in the future of agriculture because of educators like Lauren Emerson who are leading the next generation of agriculturalists. The Fifth District is proud to recognize Ms. Emerson for all she is doing for her ag students.

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

